

1-13. (CANCELED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A locking device for the fixation of a lid (1) in an opening of a pressure container with at least two locking segments (5) that are displaceable at right angles to an axis of the opening, the segments (5) bear protrusions (6) and groove-like recesses ~~circumference~~ about an outer circumferential face, which in a locked position cooperate with recesses (7) and protrusions along a brim (8) of the opening, a displacement actuator of the segments (5) is linked to the segments (5) and to at least one point of application that is on the lid (1) or on a member (3) connected to the lid (1); ✓

wherein the segments (5) are arranged in the direction of the circumference of the lid (1) and are pivotably supported on the lid (1) by a swivel arm (16), separate from the displacement actuator, that is interposed between the segments (5) and the lid (1), the swivel arm (16) in turn is pivotably connected to the segments (5); and ✓

pivotable support of the segments (5) on the lid (1) comprises at least one pivotable shaft (15) or pivot axle (14) that extend at right angles to displacement movement of the segments (5). ✓

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the displacement actuator of the segments (5) is each made up of at least one linear actuator (4) per segment (5).

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the points of application of the displacement actuator on at least one of the segments (5) ~~and/or on~~ the lid (1) ~~[[or]]~~ and the member (3) connected with the lid (1) are designed as hinge bearings (10, 11) comprising bearing pins being pivotable about at least one axis. ✓

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the swivel arm (16) is connected to the lid (1) via a rotary or swivel drive (33).

18. (CANCELED)

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the segments (5) are connected to the lid (1) and adjustable along ~~[[the]]~~ a pivot axis (14) to facilitate adjustment of an axial separation of the segments (5) from the lid (1) along the pivot axis (14). ✓

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The locking device according to claim ~~[[18]]~~ 14, wherein the pivotable shaft (15) or the pivot axis (14) is supported on the lid (1) on at least one bearing (22) being moveable at right angles to the swivel axis (14) and fixable in this adjusted position. ✓

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The locking device according to claim ~~[[18]]~~ 14, ✓
wherein the pivotable shaft (15) or the pivot axis (14) carries a bushing (17) parallel to the pivot axis (14), in which the segments (5) are pivotable and axially fixable in a direction along the pivot axis (14).

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 21, wherein the segments (5) are supported pivotably, via operative springs (20), on the bushing (17) and are axially adjustable along the pivot axis (14) to facilitate adjustment of an axial distance between the segments (5) and the lid (1).

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the segments (5) comprise either at least two recesses, which receive locking members, or ears (13) that comprise bearing eyes (35) which receive either locking members or locking pins. ✓
✓
✓

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the lid (1) and the segments (5) linked to the lid (1) are mounted to a support (28) to be pivotable about an axis intersecting or crossing the axis (30) of the opening, the support (28) together with the lid (1) being pivotable about an axis (29) extending outside of the opening and perpendicular to the axis (30) of the opening.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 24, wherein the lid (1) is connected to the support (28) by a spring rod (31) having an adjustable position and being eccentrically arranged between the lid (1) and the support (28).

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein actuating members (9) of a position switch (26) are provided, which actuating members (9) immerse in ~~annular grooves~~ the recesses (7) of the brim (8) at right angles ✓
to the brim (8) of the opening.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A locking device for fixing of a lid (1) in an opening of a pressure container, the device comprising:

at least two locking segments (5), each having an ~~inner surface and an~~ ✓
outer surface with protrusions (6) and recesses;

at least two actuating units (4) communicate with ~~the inner surface of~~ ✓
each of the at least two locking segments (5), each of the at least two actuating units (4) is coupled, via a hinge bearing (10), to an actuating rod (3) which is centrally supported by the lid (1); and

each locking segment (5) is pivotably coupled, via swivel arms (16), to a pivotable shaft (15) which is rotatably fixed to the lid (1) such that rotation of the pivotable shaft (15) biases the respective locking segment (5) radially outwardly at

right angles to a central axis of the opening from an unlocked position to a locked position in which the protrusions (6) of the locking segment (5) engage grooves (7) in a brim (8) of the pressure container.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 27, wherein the swivel arms (16) are fixed at one end to the pivotable shaft (15) and an opposed end to a bushing (17), a bolt (19) axially secures the locking segment (5) to the bushing (17) such that the locking segment (5), the bushing (17) and the pivotable shaft (15) are axially parallel.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The locking device according to claim 28, wherein a cup spring (20) is supported coaxially with the bushing (17) and the bolt (19), between the locking segment (5) and the bushing (17), and axially biases the locking segment (5) with respect to pivotable shaft (15).